

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 C.F.R. § 1.9(f) and § 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under sections §§ 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled TELESCOPIC SINGLES STICK, described in the specification filed herewith.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- (x) no such person, concern or organization.  
( ) the persons, concerns or organizations listed below.\*

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor

John L. Shannon, Jr.

Signature

Date

8/31/00

Full Name of Second Joint Inventor, If Any

Signature

Date

Full Name of Third Joint Inventor, If Any

Signature

Date

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entitites. (37 C.F.R. § 1.27(b)).

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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION**

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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled TELESCOPIC SINGLES STICK, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

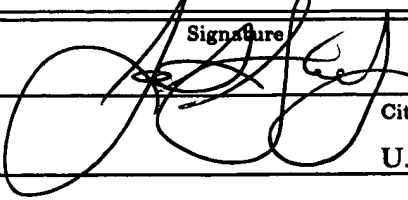
I hereby appoint both jointly and severally, as my attorneys and/or agent(s) with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith the following attorneys and/or agent(s):

James W. Miller, Registration No. 27,661; and his Washington D.C. associate, Douglas R. Hanscom, Registration No. 26,600, telephone number (703) 415-1500.

All correspondence and telephone communications should be addressed to James W. Miller, Attorney at Law, Suite 1005 Foshay Tower, 821 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55402, telephone (612) 338-5915.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent is-

suing thereon.

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor	Signature	Date
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